

Application No. 10/772,102

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONIn the Abstract

Please substitute the following amended Abstract for the Abstract as currently pending (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

Methods for producing metal/metalloid oxide particles comprise rare earth metals herein include reacting a reactant stream in a gas flow. The reactant stream includes a rare earth metal precursor and an oxygen source. A collection of particles comprising metal/metalloid oxide have an average particle size from about 15 nm to about 1 micron. The metal/metalloid oxide comprises a non-rare earth metal oxide wherein less than about 25 percent of a non-rare earth metal is substituted with a rare earth metal. The metal/metalloid oxide particles can be reacted with  $H_2S$  or  $C_2S$  to form corresponding metal/metalloid sulfide particles. The metal/~~metalloid~~metal sulfide particles can be doped with rare earth metals. The particles are useful as phosphors, for example for use in displays.